

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 EB-07 RSC-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

/044 W

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R 170805Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3699

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 0239

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR HUME AND FITZSIMMONDS

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ELAB, ETRD, SW

SUBJECT: EMBASSY RESPONSE TO LETTER FROM CESAR E. CHAVEZ OF UNITED
FARM WORKERS ON LETTUCE AND GRAPES

REF: STOCKHOLM 5139

1. I HAVE RECEIVED A LETTER DATED JANUARY 5 FROM CESAR CHAVEZ OBJECTING TO USG PROGRAMHERE OF HELPING PROMOTE SALES OF NON-UFW LETTUCE AND GRAPES. HE ALSO STATES THAT HE IS WRITING TO NUMEROUS MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

2. IN VIEW OF LATTER, DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND AGRICULTURE MAY WISH TO KNOW THE MAIN POINTS OF MY ANSWER WHICH ARE AS FOLLOWS.

3. US AGRICULTURAL TRADE ASSOCIATIONS HAVE CONTINUING PROGRAMS WHICH PROMOTE, WITH USG SUPPORT, LONG LISTS OF OUR FARM COMMODITIES. AMONG THESE ARE GRAPES. OTHERS PROMOTED FROM TIME TO TIME INCLUDE LETTUCE. THIS PROGRAM MANDATED BY CONGRESS.

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4. WE THEN INDICATE THAT WE ARE NOT SURE AS TO HIS RECOMMENDATION. IN VIEW OF CRITICAL BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS PROBLEMS, WE ASSUME HE IS NOT SUGGESTING THAT WE SHOULD STOP PROMOTING LETTUCE AND GRAPES. IN VIEW OF STATEMENTS IN HIS LETTER, AND IN A LETTER FROM HIS SWEDISH REPRESENTATIVE PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER 14 ISSUE OF "THE NATION", WE WONDER IF HE IS BEING MISLED INTO THINKING THAT USG EFFORTS HERE DISCRIMINATE AGAINST UFW HARVESTED LETTUCE. WE THEN EXPLAIN THAT THIS IS NOT SO, AND THAT EMBASSY DOES NOT SUBSIDIZE PRICE OF LETTUCE AS HE STATES.

5. WE CLOSE BY STATING THAT IT WOULD BE HOROUGHLY INAPPROPRIATE FOR THIS EMBASSY TO ENTER INTO A US LABOR DISPUTE. IT IS OUR JOB, HOWEVER, TO PROMOTE US EXPORTS, AND THIS WE ARE DOING TO THE BEST OF OUR ABILITY. WE SUGGEST THAT, IF MR. CHAVEZ HAS FURTHER QUESTIONS, HE MAY WISH TO TAKE THEM UP WITH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN WASHINGTON WHERE THE BASIC POLICY FOR THIS PROGRAM IS MADE. A COPY OF EMBASSY LETTER WILL BE AIRMAILED.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: BOYCOTTS, VEGETABLES, GRAPES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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